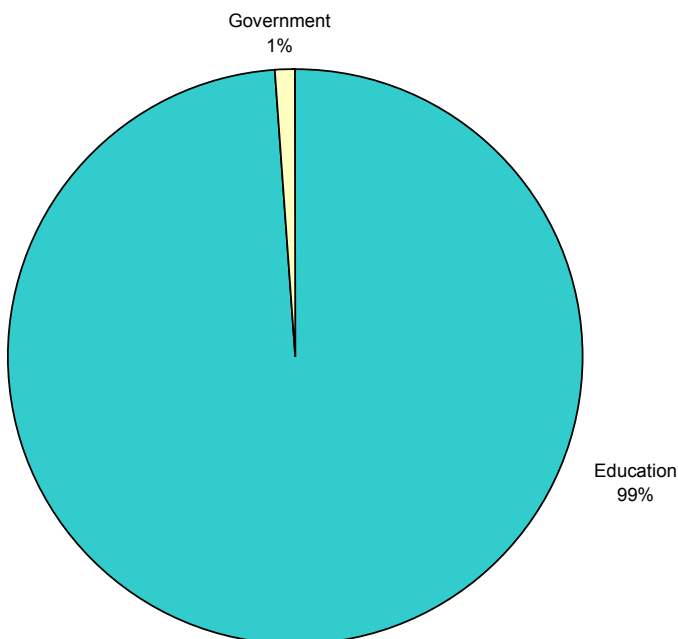


Job Description

Secondary school teachers help students delve more deeply into subjects introduced in elementary school and expose them to more information about the world. These teachers specialize in a specific subject, such as English, Spanish, mathematics, history, or biology. They also can teach subjects that are career-oriented. Vocational education teachers instruct and train students to work in a wide variety of fields, such as health care, business, auto repair, communications, and, increasingly, technology. They often teach courses that are in high demand by area employers, who may provide input into the curriculum and offer internships to students. In addition to classroom activities, teachers oversee study halls and homerooms, supervise extracurricular activities, and accompany students on field trips. They identify physical or mental problems and refer students to the proper resource or agency for diagnosis and treatment. Secondary school teachers occasionally assist students in choosing courses, colleges, and careers. Teachers also participate in education conferences and workshops.

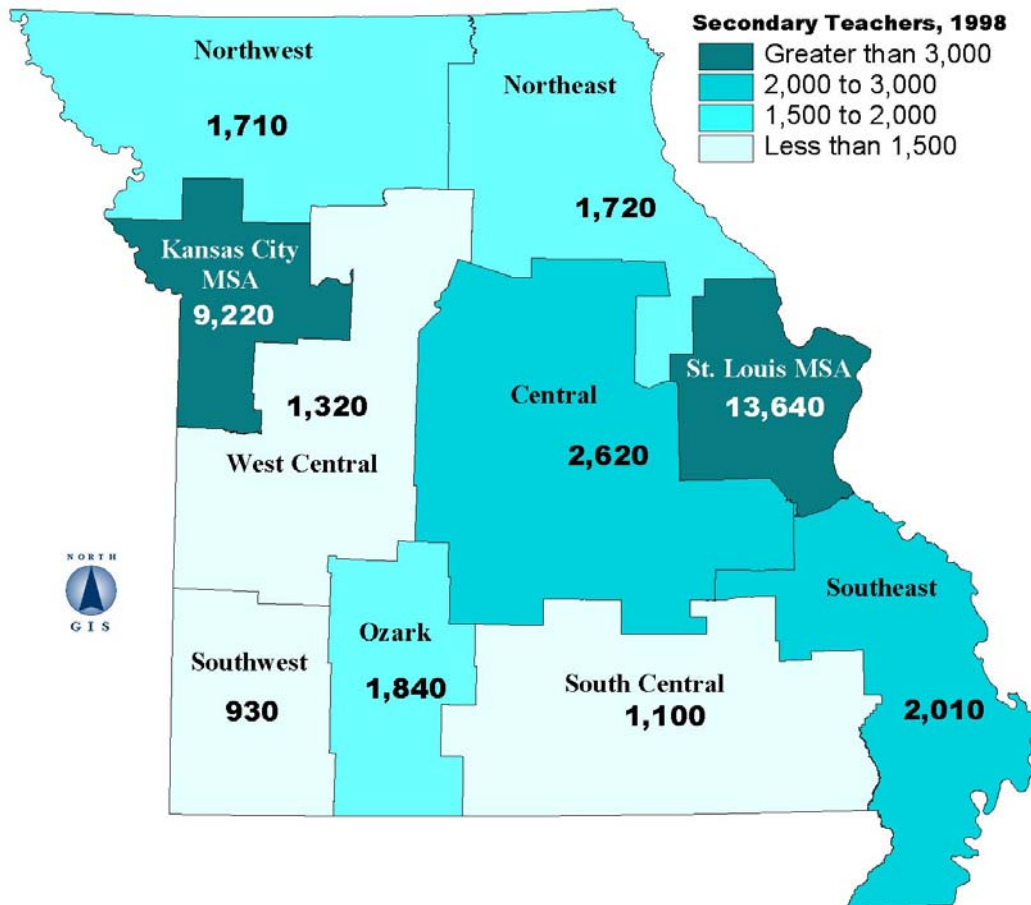
Employment by Industry



Employment Trends

Region	Employment		Projected Growth	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings
	1998	2008			
United States	1,426,000	1,749,000	322,000	22.6%	778,000
Missouri	30,080	36,670	6,590	21.0%	1,620
Northwest Region	1,710	2,070	360	21.1%	91
Northeast Region	1,720	2,090	370	21.5%	92
Kansas City MSA	9,220	11,420	2,200	23.9%	514
West Central Region	1,320	1,550	230	17.4%	65
Central Region	2,620	3,200	580	21.1%	142
St. Louis MSA	13,640	16,570	2,930	21.5%	728
Southwest Region	930	1,140	210	22.6%	51
Ozark Region	1,840	2,380	540	29.3%	113
South Central Region	1,100	1,390	290	26.4%	64
Southeast Region	2,010	2,400	390	19.4%	103

Source: Missouri Economic Research & Information Center, Projections Unit



Wage Information

Region	Average Annual Wage
United States	\$43,030
Missouri	\$35,120
Northwest Region	\$31,295
Northeast Region	\$28,659
Kansas City MSA	\$36,720
West Central Region	\$28,840
Central Region	\$30,972
St. Louis MSA	\$41,010
Southwest Region	\$28,482
Ozark Region	\$28,016
South Central Region	\$25,064
Southeast Region	\$32,499

Secondary School Teachers in Missouri earn \$35,120 per year, somewhat less than the national average. The occupation requires a baccalaureate degree and passage of the Certifying examination.

Source: Missouri Economic Research & Information Center, Occupational Employment Statistics Unit

Typical Tasks

- Instructs students using lecture and demonstration.
- Assigns lessons and corrects homework.
- Develops and administers tests.
- Prepares course outlines and objectives following state and local requirements.
- Uses audiovisual aids and other materials to supplement presentations.
- Evaluates, records, and reports student progress.
- Meets with students, parents, and counselors to resolve behavioral and academic problems.
- Maintains discipline in classroom.
- Participates in meetings, conferences, and teacher training workshops.

- Selects, stores, orders, issues, and inventories classroom equipment, materials, and supplies. Keeps attendance records.
- Performs advisory duties, sponsors clubs, helps students select courses, and counsels students.

Skills Needed

- Instructing
- Speaking
- Learning Strategies
- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Social Perceptiveness
- Mathematics
- Implementation Planning
- Information Gathering
- Monitoring

Preparation and Licensing Requirements

Necessary Education

- Baccalaureate Degree
- Recommendation from Approved School
- Emphasis Area (15 Specialties)

Certification

This occupation requires certification in Missouri. With a recommendation from their school, graduates may apply to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to take Specialty Area Tests. A passing grade is required to teach in Missouri. Re-Certification and advancement of Certification is available upon completion of additional requirements.

Job Outlook

- Job opportunities for Secondary Teachers should be excellent.
- Employment is expected to grow about as fast as the average for all occupations.
- Many vacancies will result from the need to replace retiring teachers.
- Student enrollments are expected to rise moderately in grades 9 through 12.

Intense competition for good teachers is already under way among employers in many locations, with schools luring teachers from other States and districts with bonuses and higher pay. Teachers who are geographically mobile and who obtain licensure in more than one subject should have a distinct advantage in finding a job. Increasing enrollments of minorities, coupled with a shortage of minority teachers, should intensify efforts at recruitment. Also, the number of non-English speaking students has grown dramatically, creating demand for bilingual teachers and those who teach English as a second language.

For More Information

Missouri Economic Research & Information Center
Harry S Truman Building, Room 580
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 522-6261
<http://www.MissouriEconomy.org>

*Other Sources: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Missouri CHOICES, O*Net.*